DISTRICT TAXATION Washington Board of Trade.

SOME VITAL QUESTIONS CONSIDERED

Reports of Committees and Resolutions Adopted,

DISCUSSIONS OF INTEREST

A meeting of much interest was he'd last evening by the board of trade at Masonic Temple. Reports were heard from committees which indicated the activity of se sections of the general body in the consideration of subjects which are re ferred to them. The most claborate report read was the one from the committee or proposed by the District Commissioners in regard to the personal tax and the license regulations generally. After discussion the recommendations of this report were adopted. President John Joy Edson presided.

The Committee's Report.

After the minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary, Mr. George H. Harries, and approved the report of the committee on taxation and assessment was read by the secretary.

Taxation and Assessment.

The report states at the outset that the bill which is proposed to be introduced in Congress to regulate the assessment and collection of taxes and licenses in the District of Columbia and for other purposes which has been referred by the Commiswhich has been referred by the Commissioners to the board of trade for its opinfon has been given careful examination and
consideration by the committee during the
past two weeks. It appears to the committee that if church property is to be
in any degree exempted from taxation, so
also for perhaps stronger reasons should
the property of charity organizations not
conducted for profit. In the opinion of the
committee the interests of the community
would be served in a larger degree by the
preservation of the present system of the
semi-annual payments of taxes than by the
payment of the entire tax in the month of
May as proposed in the bill.

The report then takes up the sections of
the bill for the taxation of personal property and after referring to the proposed tax
of one and a half per centum of the gross
receipts of corporations which is intended,
according to the bill, in lieu of any personal tax. They state that it is difficult to
understand why under such conditions corportations should be required to make a
schedule of all their personal property.

Varying System.

Varying System.

eport also declares that the bill establishes as between private and corporate owners of personal property varying systems of taxation destructive of all uniformity. For instance, by section 6 a partnership owning personal property to partnership owning personal property to the extent of \$100,000 would be taxed an-nually \$1,500. A corporation owning the same amount of personal property would be taxed one and one-half per centum of its gross receipts (or as the Commissioners now propose, some per centum of its earn-ings) and such tax might be, in either event, only a small fraction of the amount paid by the partnership used as an illus-tration.

paid by the partnership used as an inustration.

The report also asserts that section 6 of the bill beyond question authorizes double taxation, as, in the case of notes secured by deeds of trust, the tax may lie not only upon the property on which the loan is made, but also on the money with which such property is purchased. This double taxation also, according to the report, applies in the case of a corporation whose investments for the most part are in real estate. It is further pointed out that where the invisible evidence of ownership consists of shares of stock held by one corporation in another corporation it is possible that they might largely go untaxed under the provisions of section 7.

Fundamental Objections.

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These and other criticisms, the report states, after all are minor, while the major objections to this bill and to any bill that the ingenuity of man has yet drafted for the enforcement of personal taxes are fundamental. The report then mentions with much detail the objections to the system of personal taxation. In the first place it is asserted that it is inquisitorial in its nature as illustrated by the pending bill. It demands from the owner an exposure of the condition of his business affairs, which he might be unwilling to make or which might be unwilling to make or which

In addition there may be a natural shrink ing on the part of the business man from taking the community into his confidence as to matters purely personal. Because of these and other reasons, the report states, these and other reasons, the report states, false returns as to personal property are rendered. While this may not be commendable, at the same time it is well nigh universal, and the result is the enforcement of the personal tax law causes truthful men to suffer while the upscrupulous gain by their unprincipled actions.

Unequal Taxation.

The report further alleges that personal taxes are unequal. Because one business may be of such a nature that it can afford to stand the interference and expense of ersonal tax, another business can not, so that those engaged in it are forced out and that those engaged in it are forced out and monopolies are fostered. Further, a personal tax does not commonly reach those at whom it is directed. In the case of a tax levied on the stock of a storekeeper, it is pointed out that in the end it is paid by his customers. So that in the last analysis such a tax is not upon accumulated wealth, but upon the necessities of life. The report proceeds to argue that the direct effect of the personal tax is to interfere with thrift and throttle industry. The assessor, the report urges, can know little assessor, the report arges, can know little of the personal property he assesses, and the difference between a five-dollar paste the difference between a five-dollar paste diamond and a \$5.000 gem, or between a chromo and a Murillo, may not be obvious to the tax officer. The assertion is made that a personal tax on corporations must fall under the same bane as other taxes, except it be placed upon a corporation en-joying natural or artificial monopolies.

Tax on Corporations.

If corporations are proper business in strumentalities then no needless drag should be placed upon their activities. The committee is of the opinion that if any special tax is to be levied as to corporations it should be a tax, subject perhaps to a qualification as to those enjoying speto a qualification as to those enjoying spe-cial monopolies, upon their net, not gross, earnings. However, the committee adds, it does not at this time consider the best method of dealing with corporations, wheth-er such treatment be through the exercise of the taxing power or otherwise. In regard to trade licenses fixed by the bill, the committee is of the opinion that the principle upon which the bill is based remains for the most part obnoxious. At-

s for the most part obnoxious. At-is specially called to the inequality tax, and a number of instances are It is said that hucksters who purremmunity, are required to pay \$18 annutens of thousands, each twelve months pay \$100. While criticising the effect the license law as nearly taxing out of existence the poor and defenseless, the reexistence the poor and defenseless, the report states that it must be borne in mind that in certain particulars license taxes may have a place; for instance, those engaged in given occupations should be identified, and as to certain other occupations, police reasons may demand a high license, bidentification could be secured where necessary for furnishing a tag costing twenty-five or fifty cents a year. But on this point the committee adds that it is not within the purview of the report to discuss the police question.

Exemption for Horses.

Exemption for Houses.

An interesting part of the report is the An interesting part of the report is the discussion of the question of the partial exemption from taxation of houses occupied by their owners, and the report, deeming such a course likely to prove beneficial, favors such exemption in each case of \$1,000 of the assessed value. The committee is of the opinion that such a change would increase the number of home owners, placing, as it does, a premium upon the purchase of the control of the committee is of the opinion that such a change would increase the number of home owners, placing, as it does, a premium upon the purchase of the control of the control of the report, so that when the subject was brought up at some future day in the control of the control of the report, so that when the subject was brought up at some future day in the control of the control

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- 1	FITZGERALD PATRICK J. 901 44 8 w
	FLEMER LEWIS Cor 7th and Md ave. n.e.
	FRANKLIN SOUARE PHARMACY 1229 1 st.
- 11	FREY, WM. H 9th and N V ave
	FURR, WM. C
е.	GENTNER, WM. G14th and U sts.
۲.	GESSFORD, JAS. E
t.	GIBBONS, CHAS. P6th and L n.e.
t.	GILLETTE'S DRUG STORE 15th and H
	GILMAN, Z. D
t.	GREEN, EDWARD10th and Va. ave. s.w.
t.	GRIFFITH, CHAS. I
a.	GROSS, CHAS. E14th and Park pl.
n	HAINEN, F. C201 Harrison st., Anacostia
t.	HARPER, ROBT. N
	HAVENNER S PHARMACY
t.	HAWKINS, CHAS4th and Va. ave. 8.e.
	HENDERSHUTT, ALBERT F3124 14th
d	HILL WALTE D D
t. ,	HIVES CHEEODD D
	HOOD FRANK
	HOSKINS IAS T 1900 S Con at
t.	HOUSTON'S PHARMACY 10th and P sta
3.	HOYLE & CO
k	HUBBARD & MALTRY Benning
8	HUDDLESON, FRANK W. 1400 14th 8t
5910	HURLEBAUS, GEO. W 2030 14th at
	HUTTON & HILTON 1023 22d st
١.	JENNINGS, JOHN W
t,	JOHNSTON, H. A
t.	JUDD, THEO, A. T
	JULIHN'S PHARMACY10th and I sts.
	KEIM, CHAS. F
t.	KELLY, SAM'L L12th and H sts.
	RENNER, H. W17th and Q ats.
E.	KERNAN, EUGENE C
93111	KETCHUM, FRANK B
	KING S DRUG STORE
t.	POSS POWARD H
	KDATS C. I
1.	DAGGETT, ALEX S. 801 Vt. ave. DANIELS, ARA M. 1800 14th st. DAVIS, AMERICUS 405 H at. n.e. DAVIS, WM. H. 2001 11th st. DAVIS, AMERICUS 405 H at. n.e. DAVIS, WM. H. 23d and H sts. DAV I. S. & CO. 1418 14th st. DAW, WM. H. 23d and H sts. DAY I. S. & CO. 1418 14th st. DENT, Geo. H. Jr. 14th and F sts. DEENT, Geo. H. Jr. 14th and F sts. DIEUTONNE. F. J. & SON. 11th and F sts. DIEUTONNE. F. J. & SON. 11th and Pa. ste. DOBYNS, THOS. A. 2d and Pa. ave. s.e. DOWNEY, W. C. & C. 14th and Pa. ave. s.e. DOWNEY, W. C. & C. 14th and Pa. ave. s.e. DOWNEY, W. C. & C. 14th and Vt. ave. DUCKETT, WALTER G. 2150 Pa. ave. EICHHORN, ALOYSIUS. S7 K st. EINENBEISS, V. H.JGO. 700 B s. St. EINENBEISS, V. H.JGO. 700 B s. St. EILLERY, ALBERT S. 1440 5th st. ELLIOT, CHAS. H. 14th and Blinney sts. EILLERY, ALBERT S. 1440 5th st. ELLIOT, CHAS. H. 14th and Welling pl. ESOH, VICTOR H. 1428 Md. ave. n.e. FIFLD, WM. C. 277 H n.e. FILLERY, ALBERT S. 1401 5th st. ELLIOT, CHAS. H. 14th and Welling pl. ESOH, VICTOR H. 1428 Md. ave. n.e. FIELD, WM. C. 277 H n.e. FIELD, WM. C. 277 H n.e. FIELD, WM. G. 601 1st s. w. FIELDER, L. WM. G. 601 1st s. w. GRENTSER, WM. G. 600 1st s. w. G

221	TIPPARY DILLEGE AL	
3	LYNHAM WARDIE D. 1919 AV.	å
	McCOMAS, EDWARD M 14th and f. at	•
	McCOMAS, PERCY G	į
t,	McDONALD, FRAZIER J	*
	McDONALD, WALTER J 1300 N. Cap. s	ä
3	McGLUE, CHAS. H	ij
3	MACKALL BROSE B	×
	MAGREDER POPT I TOO D.	
	MAJOR, JOHN R. Too 7th a	å
١.	MERTZ, EDWARD P. 1110 F .	ä
	MITCHELL, WM. K	ä
t.	MULCAHY, DANIEL D	ä
	NATIANS, ANTHUR	ł
	O'DONNELL TAS SOUTH PR. RV	ž
	O'DONNELL JAS & BRO 324 and O st	:
1	O'DONOGHUE, DAN'L, Jr 1st and C st	ŝ
	OGRAM, THOS. E 13th and Pa. av	ē
	PALACE PHARMACY	è
	PEARSON, PAUL	ķ
	PITZER FRANK	1
	PRENTISS CHAS S Oth and F at	
	PRICE, CHAS, S	ě
	PRICE, MALVERN H 1255 H st. n.	è
	PRIDE, ARMISTEAD T 28th and P st	á
	PURELL BORE TO STATE STA	4
	OUGLEV PICEARD	9
	RATCLIFFE HOWARD 1100 B n	,
	REMSBURG, CHAS. D	á
	REYNOLDS, GEO. R	ė
	RICHARDSON, WILLARD S 313 41/2 st. s.v	K
1	ROE, W.M. G	1
	SCHAFFER EDWARD C 6th and R n.	5
31	SCHAFHIRT, ADOLPH J. N. Cap. and H st	
L.	SCHAUM, F. LOUIS 1st and Mass. ave. n.	ŧ
R	SCHERER, CHAS	Ą
	SCHERER & GERGER	Š
3	SHAFFER WM E 500 F	'n
h	SIMMS, G. G. C 14th and N. Y av	ê
	SMITH, WM. L	ŧ
	STAFFORD, O., & CO15th and U st	ä
2	STEELE, MORGAN L724 E. Cap. e	ţ
	STONE TUM D	!
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g	SUDLER, JAS. K. & SONS5th and H st	ä
	SULLAVAN, JOHN P	¥
	TALIAFERRO, WALTER B 1729 Conn. av	ė
	THOMPSON WM 8	P
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	VAN REUTH, FELIX A 20th and K st	à
	VEITCH, ROBT. A	ż
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-	LIBRARY PHARMACY. 23 and Pa. ave. a. LYNHAM, WADDUE D. 1213 445 and L st McCOMAS, EDWARD M. 14th and L st McCOMAS, PERCY G. 180 V. av McCOMALD, WALTER J. 1300 N. Cap. s McDONALD, WALTER J. 1300 N. Cap. s McDONALD, WALTER J. 1300 N. Cap. s McCOMALD, WALTER J. 1300 N. Cap. s McCOMALD, WALTER J. 1300 N. Cap. s McPhareson, C. R. S.	ľ
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Wonder What Mertz Will Say Today?



chase of homes. It would favor industry by lightening the burden of taxation upon houses, which is the great product of labor. It would result in the use of larger lots of land in connection with individual homes, and would facilitate the purchase by poorer citizens of better houses than they now occupy. The relief from paying \$15 per year per \$1,000 may not seem to be much, but the report states that it represents the full average weekly wage of a mechanic. The report further urges that this reduction of revenue would not probably be more than \$200,000 annually, and that it would be offset speedily by the increased production of houses and the increased revenue derived from appreciated land values.

Appended to the report are resolutions embodying the above ylews and also citations from reports of tax commissioners and commissions and other authorities of the states of New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ohio, Illinois, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and California setting forth the failure of the present tax laws.

The report is signed by the following members of the committee: J. B. Wilson, chairman; M. I. Weller, Sam. S. Bond, J. H. Ralston, V. Baldwin Johnson, Wm. Jno. Miller, Wm. Oscar Roome, Raymond J. Donaldson, Andrew Wilson, Ralph P. Barnard, N. L. Burchell.

Question of Exemptions.

JINCTURE AMÂL,

CASUMPTION, BRONGHITIS, ASTEM

URE AMÁL MANUFACTURING CO

Question of Exemptions. Upon the conclusion of the reading of the report, Mr. Jesse B. Wilson, the chalrman of the committee, stated that the portion

referring to the exemption from taxes of houses was withdrawn. The secretary read resolutions embodying

the recommendations of the report, and they were considered scriatim.

The first resolution provided "that said bill should be amended to exclude from taxation charitable institutions not for

Mr. Christian Heurich said he wished to correct a statement in the report that brew-ers make such large sums of money. In-stead of that, he added, after paying their ers make such large sums stead of that, he added, after paying their taxes and other expenses there was but little left.

In the opinion of W. R. Bramhall, when the first resolution came up, there should be no exemption of any property. He thought it was unjust.

inought it was unjust.

Mr. Josiah Millard was also of the opinlon that there should be no exemptions in
taxes on real estate. He thought that in
the proportion that his principle was carried out the burden of taxation would be

A motion was made by Mr. M. I. Weller to lay the amendment on the table, and a A motion was made by Mr. M. I. Weller to lay the amendment on the table, and a protest being made that this would cut off debate, Mr. Weller stated that such was not his purpose, but rather than to seem to check debate he would withdraw his

Mr. V. Baldwin Johnson said that after giving this subject a good deal of thought he knew of no reason why church property should be exempted.

Mr. Weller stated that the committee had considered this matter, but had reached the

considered this matter, but had reached the conclusion that this was not a propitious time for such a change.

Mr. Johnson said that the entire committee was of the opinion that church property ought to be taxed, but he shared with the committee the view that this was not the time to press the matter.

Mr. F. L. Siddons said that the resolution did not oppose the exemption of church property from taxation, but simply expressed the opinion that charitable institutions ought to be exempted if church property was so favored.

Mr. John H. Magruder thought it would be a mistake to tax church property, and he was opposed to the amendment.

Shown by Statistics. Statistics were quoted by Mr. W. J. Frizzel, showing that 14 per cent of the property in the District was now exempt from taxation, and he thought the situation was one that required action reducing the mount of the exempt property.

The amendment was then lost, and the resolution was unanimously adopted. The following resolutions were adopted without debate:

"That taxes should be collected semi-an-nually, as proposed by said bill.
"That, believing a tax on personal prop-erty inimical to the best interests of this District, we are opposed to the enactment of any law providing therefor."

Taxation of Corporations. Th next resolution was "that if any special tax be levied on corporations not en-

joying public franchises such tax should be levied on net earnings." Mr. George Truesdell asked the chairman of the committee why corporations enjoy-

ing public franchises should be excepted. He said the inference from the resolution was that such corporations should be taxed on gross earnings. on gross earnings.

Mr. J. H. Raiston, for the committee, explained that it was not intended to suggest any method of taxing such corporations, as great differences of opinion existed on this subject, and therefore the resolution was so worded as not to commit the board to any one of these views.

Mr. Truesdell said the explanation was entirely satisfactory. The resolution was adopted.

Occupation Taxes.

The next and last resolution was adopted as follows: "That occupation taxes should only be levied to insure identification and for police purposes, or only in the event of absolute necessity to insure revenue, and

not care to act upon this matter.

A motion was made by Mr. Brumhall and adopted to accept the report and adopt the resolution as a whole, and he added that he thought the thanks of the board was due to the committee for the able report.

Municipal Hospital Needed. The next matter of business was a reso lution reported by Mr. B. T. Janney, chairman of the committee on charities and corrections, that the committee be authorized to urge upon Congress the passage of a bill to provide a municipal hospital for the District. This resolution was adopted.

Parks and Reservations.

A series of resolutions for the committee on parks and reservations, Mr. H. F. Blount, chairman, were read by the secretary, Mr. W. V. Cox. The first resolution urged upon Congress the approval of the estimate made by the District Commission

estimate made by the District Commissioners of \$30,000 for the care and improvement of Rock Creek Park. This resolution was adopted.

The next resolution favored action by Congress so as to secure the extension of the national park system along Rock creek, from the Zoological Park south to Massachusetts avenue on the east side, and on the west side to Road street a total of thirty acres, which, exclusive of donations, will cost about \$200,000.

It was stated that a numerously signed petition favoring this extension would be presented to Congress. Some of the reasons for this improvement was to prevent the use of the banks of the Potomac for a dumping ground and the pollution of the stream.

The Plans Explained.

The city surveyor, Mr. H. B. Looker, by the aid of a map, explained the effect of the proposed extension, which, he said, contemplated taking in the low grounds on each side of Rock creek a distance of about 500 feet. He said Belmont street would be the eastern line, and on the west side the limit would be one of the streets in the proposed street extension plan. He said that this proposed use of the low lands along Rock creek formed an essential link in the connection with Potomac Park. He also called attention to the location of the land which is proposed for a park in George-Upon the conclusion of his remarks the lution was adopted.

Encouragement of Enterprises. A statement was made by Mr. Ben Miller chairman of the committee on commerce and manufactures, calling attention to a resolution adopted by the committee looking to increasing the means of gaining a ivelihood in this city. The resolution

livelihood in this city. The resolution stated that it was desired to encourage the location here of industrial enterprises and such manufacturing plants as may be suited to the character of this city. The resolution further authorized the committee to appear before the Senate subcommittee on the taxation of corporations and urge the establishment for the city of Washington of a manufacturing limit.

Mr. Geo. E. Emmons, for this committee, said that such plans encountered the obstacle of adverse taxation. He said that the action of the board this evening looking to making the gross earnings of corporations instead of the net earnings a basis of taxation relieved the situation somewhat, but it was thought that the committee should have authority to appear before the committees of Congress in order to lay before them a plan for remitting taxes for a period and for encouraging manufactures. He said that a request had come to the committee from a manufacturing concern for information in reference of the committee in the committee of the committee in the committee of the committee from a manufacturing concern for information in reference. had come to the committee from a manuhad come to the committee from a manufacturing concern for information in regard to a suitable location for a plant here. It had found that good sites were to be found along the Eastern branch. He said the committee had found that some of the local regulations interfered with such enterprises, and the committee was of the opinion that everything compatible with the interests of the city should be done to encourage the establishment of manufacturing plants in this District.

No Infringements Intended.

Mr. Emmons made an earnest plea for action on this subject, so important to the interests of the city and in a line with giving employment to our people. It was giving employment to our people. It was not the intention, he said, to attempt to infringe upon the residential portions of one city, but to keep such concerns outside. He urged that the committee be authorized to go to Congress and do what it can to promote in this way the material advancement of the District.

Mr. A. M. Read thought that usually the committees of the board brought forward some specific object in recommending action by the board. In this instance the committee had not named where the proposed manufacturing bounds should be, and he favored further consideration by the

he favored further consideration by the committee. He had no doubt the board would give early consideration to the rec-

mmendations.

Mr. W. J. Newton spoke of the difficulty of securing a start in this city for young men, and he appreciated the importance of increasing industrial openings here, but in spite of that fact he did not favor the reso-

spite of that fact he did not favor the resolution, because it delegated powers to a committee that belonged to the board. He thought the recommendations of the committee should be more specific.

Mr. Miller, the chairman of the committee, said he was willing to withdraw the latter part of the resolution and bring it up for consideration at a subsequent meeting of the board. He would like, however, to have the board adopt the first part of the resolution, thus indorsing the efforts of the committee along these lines.

President Edson's Interest. President Edson's Interest.

President Edson said that he was deeply nterested in this subject, and he thought there was no one that was more heartily of the city. An evening would be assigned for the use of the committee, and full con-Mr. M.-L. Weller said the conditions h

were favorable for the location of manufac-turing plants, for here capital would be well protected, as labor riots could not take place. He thought that if there was a change in the public school system so as to have trade education in the lower grades it would result in training up a useful class of employes.

it would result in training up a useful class of employes.

Mr. H. F. Blount said he thought this was a favorable place for the lighter manufactures, those that will not interfere with the attractiveness of this city as a place of residence.

A resolution was adopted favoring the course of the committee in its efforts to encourage manufacturers' interests. It was the understanding that a more detailed recommendation will be prepared, to be considered at a fature meeting of the board.

The board then adjourned.

Some of Those Present.

Among those present were John W. Bab son, Dr. Frank Baker, W. V. Cox, N. L. Burchell, H. H. Darnellle, Matthew Trimble, Geo. Truesdell, W. A. Meloy, Emmons Smith, Jesse B. Wilson, W. S. Thompson, W. G. Henderson, F. L. Siddons, H. F. Blount, J. H. Ralston, M. I. Weller, A. A. Wilson, Edward Graves, Thos. Blagden, S. W. Curriden, Geo. E. Emmons, Thos. W. Smith, N. G. Ordway, Christian Heurich, V. Baldwin Johnson, W. H. Moses, T. B. Jewell, John H. Magruder, H. B. Looker, B. T. Janney, Lorin Chappell, Josiah Millard, A. M. Read, Benjamin Miller, Allan D. Abert, Jr., W. S. Montgomery, N. H. Shea, H. L. Rust, B. C. Pole, E. F. Droop, Appleton P. Clark, J. P. Walker, Thos. Dulin, A. T. Stuart, W. J. Newton, W. J. Frizzell, Kimon Nicolaides, W. H. Saunders, B. P. Davis, J. Fred Kelley, Dr. D. P. Hickling, Seymour Tulloch, John Miller, H. W. Lewis, P. J. Brennan, W. Mosby Williams, M. G. Copeland and Frank Hume. Burchell, H. H. Darneille, Matthew Trimliams, M. G. Copeland and Frank Hume.

DREDGING IN GOLD SANDS

Secretary Root Sends a Statement to the Senate.

No Concessions Granted by the Secretary of War-Permits Have Been Issued-No Application Denied.

Secretary Root has transmitted to the Senate his reply to the resolution of March 21 requesting information on the War De partment's practice of granting permits for gold dredging off the Alaskan coast. He

"No concessions or grants to excavate the gold-bearing bed of the sea at or in the vicinity of Cape Nome, in Alaska, or in other Alaskan waters, have been made by the Secretary of War or any other official of the War Department. Numerous applications have been received by the War Department for permits to excavate in the bed of the ocean in the vicinity of Cape Nome, in Alaska, in the exercise of the authority conferred upon the chief of engineers and the Secretary of War by section 10 of the act of Congress, approved March 3, 1899, which provides: * • 'it shall not be lawful to excavate or fill, or in any manner to alter or modify the course, location, condition or capacity of any port, roadstead, haven, harbor, canal, lake, harbor of refuge or inclosure within the limits of any breakwater, or of the channel of any navigable water of the United States, unless the work has been recommended by the chief of engineers and authorized by the Secretary of War prior to beginning the same.' cations have been received by the War De

"Secretary of war prior to beginning the same."

"Section 12 of the same statute makes it a criminal offense to excavate without the required authority, however lawful the work may otherwise be, and provides that the offender 'on conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$2,500, nor less than \$500, or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or by both such punishments in the discretion of the court. As this statute was designed solely for the protection of navigation, it has been the practice of the 'War Department to grant permits to persons desiring to excavate for any purpose within the work is not such as to injuriously affect havigation and is otherwise lawful. Permits thus granted are not exclusive; they do not preclude any number of simflar permits applicable to the same territory; they are not grants or concessions, and they denfer no rights whatever except iminunity from prosecution under the statute above quoted secured in accordance with the terms of the statute, and by reason of a compliance with the provisions thereof.

"As there seems to be no legal reason why all citizens of the Ufflted States should not have the same opportunity to prospect for gold and acquire mining rights under the mining laws upon lands not under water as they have upon lands not under water the department determined, as a general policy in the exercise, of the discretion vested in the chief of engineers and Secretary of War by this statute, to relieve all citizens applying from the obstacle interposed by this statute as long as their proposed operations do not in fact interfere with navigation.

No Application Desied. same."
"Section 12 of the same statute makes it

No Application Denied. "All applications made under this statute

have accordingly, so far as it has been por sible to dispose of them, received favorable action. No application of this description has been denied. Upon two permits have been granted. Upon a third papers had been prepared and were awaiting the Secretary of Way's signature at the time of the passage of your resolution. Three others were approved by the chief of engineers and were in the hands of the judge advocate general for the preparation of the necessary papers. Eleven others are still in the office of the chief of engineers in process of examination upon the question whether they interfere with navigation. Four more just is secretary. For examination we do was awaiting the Secretary's signature at the time the received. Nineteen other applications have been received and are under consideration by the proper officers of the War Department. The names of the applicants are Harvey T. Harding, Gustavus R. Brown, amination upon the question whether they interfere with navigation. Four more just been granted. Upon a third papers had

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Easter Opening

CONTINUES ALL NEXT WEEK.

You are cordially invited and will be heartily welcomed. Buyer or sightseer, you'll catch the spirit of this bigger and better business.

This is a glorious occasion gloriously inaugurated! Every eye is on us, every lip speaks of this opening event.

The broad portals of our enterprise, generosity and zeal are flung wide open.

Our Drices.

Defending you against high prices has long been our pleasant and profitable duty-pleasant, because of the many thousands of men who have been benefited by our low prices-profitable, because of the great aggregation of

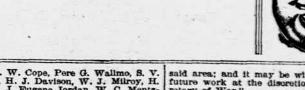
It has been one continuous warfare this fighting down prices for fine tailoring, but we win in every engagement. The people look to us for defense-we respond quicklyone of the links in the strong chain that holds trade here is the positive knowledge the people have of the genuine money-saving we give them and the thorough reliability of all our productions. Satisfaction guaranteed with every order, big or little. That means money back if you want it.

Mertz and Mertz.

Makers of Made-to-Measure Garments for Men. 906 and 908 F St.

Baltimore Store, 6 East Baltimore St.





received are in the office of the Secretary of War, and will today be sent to the chief of engineers. Unless otherwise directed by Congress the Secretary of War will deem it his duty in the exercise of the discretion vested in him by law to grant permits in all of these cases and upon all other similar applications by citizens of the United States, provided that the work proposed does not injuriously affect navigation." Keyes, T. W. Cope, Pere G. Walimo, S. V. Matchett, H. J. Davison, W. J. Milroy, H. O. Green, J. Eugene Jordan, W. C. Mentzger, H. H. Tedford and F. R. Haddock.

The original form of permit granted in the cases of Esterly and Stanley was subsequently changed so as to include the qualifying clause, "that this instrument is simply a permission to excavate and fill under said act, and is not exclusive within

> REFRESHING SLEEP. Horsford's Acid Phosphate Quiets the nerves, relieves the tired and confused condition of the brain, and induces refreshing sleep. Genuies been name Honsporn's on wrapper.

said area; and it may be withdrawn as to future work at the discretion of the Sec-retary of War."

Sailors Eaten by Cannibals.

The steamer Warrimoo, at Vancouver, B. C., brings from Dutch New Guinea the shocking account of the devouring of three officers of the steamer General Pell by cannibals, who caught them while on shore taking photographs. Ernest Wiegan, one of the party, was

Ernest Wiegan, one of the party, was wounded by arrows, and while hiding saw the barbarians tie his three companions to trees, cut off portions of their living fiesh and finally roast and devour them. The Dutch man-of-war Sumatra is reported as prepared to avenge the atrocities

Granger—"Did you hear about Smith? He is trying to get on the police force."
Farmer—"The idea! Why, not even his grandparents were born in Ireland."—Boston Transcript.



Permits Granted.

An accompanying paper showed that per-

were granted to George Max Esterly and

Benjamin W. Stanley. An application of